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To: All Providers and Associations

Re: Synagis Criteria

Alabama Medicaid has updated its prior authorization criteria for Synagis. The approval time frame for Synagis will begin October 1, 2005 and will be effective through March 14, 2006. A total of up to five (5) doses will be allowed per recipient in this timeframe. There are no circumstances that will allow for approval of a sixth dose. In addition, Medicaid accepts the following as risk factors for infants less than six (6) months old with gestational age of 33-35 weeks:

- Childcare attendance
- School-age siblings
- Congenital abnormalities of the airways
- Severe neuromuscular disease
- Exposure to environmental air pollutants (Environmental air pollutants will not include second-hand smoke. Environmental air pollutants would include instances where a child is *constantly* exposed to particulate air matter.)

Complete updated criteria specific to Synagis is available on our website at www.medicaid.state.al.us under Programs: Pharmacy: Prior Authorizations / Override Criteria and Forms: Criteria/Instruction Booklet for Form 369. Additional questions regarding Synagis criteria can be directed to Health Information Designs at 1-800-748-0130.

September 27, 2005